The Scranton Tribune

PUBLISHED DAILY IN SCRANTON, PA., BY THE TRIBUNE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

E. P. KINGSBURY, PRES. AND GEN'L MGR.
E. H. RIPPLE, SEC'Y AND TREAS.
LIVY S. RICHARD, EDITOR.
W. W. DAVIS, SUPERINTENDENT.
W. W. YOUNGS, ADV. MANG'R.

NEW YORK OFFICE TRIBUNE BUILDING. FRANK B. GRAY, MANAGER.

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT SCRANTON, PA. AS SECOND-CLASS MAIL MATTER.

UNION LABEL

SCRANTON, DECEMBER 4, 1894.

THE SCRANTON OF TODAY.

Come and inspect our city.
Elevation above the tide, 740 feet.
Extremely healthy.
Estimated population, 1894, 103,000.
Registered voters, 20,599.
Value of school property, $750,000.
Number of school children, 12,000.
Average amount of bank deposits, $10,000,000.
It's the metropolis of northeastern Pennsylvania.
Can produce electric power cheaper than Niagara.
No better point in the United States at which to establish new industries.
See how we grow:

Population in 1860	9,223
Population in 1870	35,000
Population in 1880	45,850
Population in 1890	75,215
Population in 1894 (estimated)	103,000

And the end is not yet.

The president's idea, read between the lines, is that the American people yet need his nostrum of free trade, but are still too all-fired dumb to know it.

The President's Message.

After all that has been said in advance about what the president might, could, would or should say in his message to congress, that document itself, with its utter lack of sensational or dramatic elements, comes to us in the nature of a surprise. Under commonplace circumstances its commonplace utterances would not occasion a ripple of interest; and even in the face of last month's unexampled popular rebuke, about the only thing in the message which will be remembered is the president's fatuitous re-indorsement of free coal, used doubtless as a type of his free trade ideas in general, and his curt, almost offensive, disposal of the Hawaiian incident, with its disagreeable reminiscences of personal blundering and international embarrassment.

There was a chance, of recent origin, for the president to connect his name with a strong, vigorous and patriotic demand for greater firmness in our dealings with the nations of the Orient. The humiliating Shanghai episode could have served as the text for such an enunciation of foreign policy as would have precluded partisan criticism at home and commanded the respect of diplomatists abroad. In the place of this we have only a neglected opportunity and a few unimportant words of routine, reportorial review. To a record for blunders of commission seldom equalled by an American administration the president now adds an almost parallel error of omission in the one part of his message that could have at least partly redeemed his second term from mediocrity.

The president's much-heralded deliverance on the financial problem turns out, after all, to be nothing more than a qualified indorsement of the plan of currency revision suggested at the recent Baltimore conference of bankers, with a side reference to Secretary Carlisle's report, which had not yet been made public. This plan the president states to mean the repeal of all laws providing for the deposit of United States bonds as security for circulation; and the authorization of national and state banks (the latter to be exempt from the present tax) to issue notes of not less than $10 denomination each, in amount not more than 75 per cent. of their paid-up and unimpaired capital. Without disputing the apparent advantages of such a plan, in the more general and mobile diffusion of currency it would occasion among the people, it will be noted that this proposition leaves wholly untouched the fundamental problem of bimetallism, to which both Democratic and Republican parties are pledged; and, if anything, makes even harder the efforts of those who contend that American silver, at least, should have equal chance with gold for coinage at our mints.

In those parts of his message which summarize subordinate department reports, the president re-echoes many good suggestions, notably in his plea for additional battle ships, for a national board of health and for a revival of our merchant marine, albeit the latter plea is coupled with palpable misstatements of fact. The document as a whole, however, is disappointing; and the impression that its perusal leaves upon one is that its author, prior to its composition, had grown so effectually disgusted with those to whom it was to be addressed that he had decided to cast no more pearls before swine.

Representative Bartlett, of New York, the Democrat who yesterday introduced a bill to repeal the income tax, has evidently interpreted correctly an important factor in the avalanche.

To prohibit the sale of oleomargarine because some dealers palm oled off as butter would be decidedly faulty logic. It is well enough to prevent undue imposture; but there is such a thing as being too solicitous for the welfare of the consumer.

The proposition that immigrants should pay a head tax puts human imports on a footing with raw and manufactured merchandise. Some immigrants are, no doubt, raw enough to justify a tariff tax; but we suspect the cry for restriction will have to select a more acceptable process. An immigrant who is fit to come in at all, be he rich or poor, ought to be admitted. Those who are not fit should not have the right to gild their unfitness with money.

The anti-Tammany probe has at last reached Superintendent Byrnes; and if he is any better than the men who have thus far fallen before it, we may expect some sensational developments in the form of libel suits. Counsel Frank Moss, of the Parkhurst society, has caused to be published concerning Mr. Byrnes assertions which, if proved, should put him behind closed bars; and which, if disproved, should enrich him with pecuniary reimbursement for damages sutained. The charges cannot be brushed aside. This time it is vindication or disgrace.

The Democratic house that passes pop-gun tariff bills must not hope to escape the gauntlet of Senator Quay's "few remarks."

The Republican Party and Silver.

It is a rare thing for a western newspaper to do justice to the Republican party—so rare that we deem it worth our while to quote an extract from the Salt Lake Tribune, a paper whose distinguished editor, Judge C. C. Goodwin, has probably no superior as an advocate of silver. In its review of last month's elections, the Tribune admits that a superficial mind might view in the enormous Democratic Waterloo in Ohio and in Mr. Bland's defeat in Missouri symptoms of a reaction against silver. But it contends that the reaction, far from having been directed against silver, was rather directed against the general perfidiousness and incompetency of Democracy as a party—a theory which is corroborated by the fact that "gold-bug" Democratic congressman went under quite as easily last month as did Democratic members favorable to the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

"On the other hand," says the Tribune, "the Republican party has been coming more and more to the silver standard, Protection and silver are getting to be day by day more pronouncedly the slogan of Republicans. The people understand that the Republican party can be trusted to carry out its declarations. When the Republicans and the Republican party declare for free silver, as they are constantly doing, the people know they mean it. Therefore, we count every victory won by the Republican party as a victory for silver, as well as for protection. When resolutions pronouncing in favor of free silver coinage can pass at such a gathering as the annual meeting of the Home Market club of Boston, we are justified in feeling exultant over the prospects of silver with the Republican party. The Republican sky has not only a silver lining, but it is getting to be pretty much of a firmament of rippling silver stars."

We are in possession of an exceedingly interesting letter upon this subject from the pen of Judge Goodwin—a letter written in reply to an editorial in this paper suggesting that consistent friends of silver could hope for nothing, irrespective of platform promises, from a party so unfit to be trusted with responsible legislative duties as the Democratic party has repeatedly proved itself to be. Mistaking our remarks as if they had been unfriendly to conservative western demands, Judge Goodwin, in his letter, made an able defence of free coinage, and incidentally paid a series of rather dubious compliments to eastern Republicans. The letter itself is too long for reproduction today. At an early day we shall take pleasure in printing it, together with other information upon this subject of growing public interest. We allude to it here because in the extract quoted above Judge Goodwin come directly over to The Tribune's original contention that reasonable silver legislation's only hope lies in the complete restoration of the Republican party.

Russia's young czar is now taking the preparatory degree to greatness—free advertising.

The disposition to reform other people's failings seizes some excellent persons so effectually as to constitute itself a public nuisance. An exemplification of this generality can be found no further off than in New York city, among the good women who are so suddenly and severely shocked at the cut of the fashionable world's evening dress.

John Bull is more than likely, even with a Democratic administration in power, to get entangled in a hornet's nest if he continues to trod on Uncle Sam's coat-tails. This isn't jingoism. It is fact.

The opinion that Mrs. Grannis has a scrawny neck is said to be universal among the New York society women.

Judicial Pensions.

The proposed law giving judges in this state the opportunity to retire on full pay after twenty consecutive years of service, if they so desire, will again come before the legislature; and it will be once more opposed by those who superficially think that a judge is an ordinary official who ought to save enough out of his regular salary to provide for a rainy day.

This view of the problem wholly overlooks the fact that a man qualified to assume the responsibilities of the judgeship invariably does so at a pecuniary sacrifice. There are judges, no doubt, who could not earn $4,000 a year in the legitimate practice of the attorney's profession; but such men are the exception. The character, the dignity and the learning requisite to a successful administration of a judicial trust are cheaply hired at $4,000 per annum; and the possibility that in some instances better service would follow the pension system, by removing anxieties incidental to bread-winning, would not be a bad bargain at the cost suggested.

One popular demand that must inevitably grow accordingly as our judicial districts grow in poulation, in wealth and in the complications of diversified business activity is the demand for increased fairness, impartiality and fearlessness on the benches of our courts of law. The idea of a judge in any degree dependent on corporate, partisan or personal favor, is one that is bound to become more and more obnoxious to the people. The pension system will not make bad judges good; but it probably would keep some judges from becoming bad by removing one of the greatest incentives they now have to partiality or favoritism, growing out of the uncertainties of the present decennial scrambles for judicial office and emolument.

In any event, it is an experiment worthy of trial.

The man who is so certain he is right that he brands the remainder of mankind which differs from him as a pack of ignorant fools has courage and grit. But how about common sense?

The pop-gun congress already displays a disposition to let up on the tariff and monkey with the bi-metallic buzz-saw, which is even more dangerous, if the truth were known.

Mr. Cleveland, we suspect, will be the last know-it-all president for several years to come. The people have tired of seeming to be so uncommonly inferior.

The People, by which we mean a paper printed at Milton, Pa., sneers at Dr. Parkhurst. This is one point upon which it differs somewhat from the people.

The Populist ticket for 1896 is quite likely to be Bland for president and Sibley for second place—the former for his brains, the latter for his cash.

No doubt if it be given sufficient time the country can yet readjust itself so as to permit John M. Ward to relinquish the captaincy of the Giants.

Indecent pictures are not necessary to the success of decent entertainments. And indecent ones are not deserving of consideration.

Grover can save valuable newspaper space by attributing it merely to votes, and not vouchsafing further superfluous explanation.

It is well to remember that the city ordinances require every property-owner to keep his sidewalk free from snow.

When the time comes the Republican party will nominate the right man for president in 1896 and elect him with a whoop.

POLITICAL POINTS.

Senator Quay will occupy his fine new mansion on K street, Washington, about Jan. 1.

United States Senator McLaurin has decided to enter the race for governor of Mississippi.

W. J. Robinson, business manager of the Erie Dispatch, is slated for message clerk of the senate.

John W. Lovett, of Anderson, is a candidate for the nomination as United States senator of Indiana. He is a son-in-law of ex-Governor Cumback.

Representative Riter, of Philadelphia, will introduce a bill at Harrisburg next session to retire the judges of all courts on full pay after twenty years' actual consecutive service. Retirement, however, is made voluntary.

It is said that Major McDowell's principal competitor for the chief clerkship of the next natonal house, Representative Henderson, of Illinois, will pull out, leaving McDowell a comparatively clear field. Henderson will try to be chosen sergeant-at-arms.

Senator Brewer, of Franklin county, is still warmly in favor of his bill to create a court of intermediate and final jurisdiction between the present common pleas and orphans' courts and the supreme court. He has, it is understood, abandoned his original intention of giving the court final jurisdiction, only in orphans' court cases.

A bill will be introduced at Harrisburg providing for the opening of the polls on election day at sunrise and closing them at sunset. This is the same plan that is now followed in New York. It is claimed that the new law would enable all who desired to vote to do so. At present the polls are open from 7 to 7. In cases where workingmen are employed a long distance from their polling places they either lose their votes or half a day's work.

The Reporter-Journal thinks the "reasons why Bradford county should name the representative in congress to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of the late Hon. Myron B. Wright are so convincing that it may be taken as settled that only blundering on the part of the county itself can defeat her claim. Since 1880, a period of fourteen years, every other county has in turn named the representative, and by either rotation or plain division of time it is now Bradford's turn. And this leaves out of the calculation the fact that Bradford county is not only the largest and most populous county in the district, but, in the matter of Republican majorities, is greater than the other three counties combined. Of the 8,171 plurality given at the late election for Congressman Wright, 4,645 came from this county, and 3,526 from Susuqehanna, Wayne and Wyoming."

It is thought in Philadelphia, according to the Record, that Prospective Speaker Walton will re-appoint Mr. Marshall, of Allegheny, chairman of the appropriations committee, George V. Lawrence, of Washington, is proposed for chairman of ways and means. William H. Keyser, of Philadelphia, will probably be again chairman of passenger railways, his influential backing calling Mr. Walton's attention, among other things, to the fact that Mr. Keyser's majority for representative in the Twentieth ward was 123 greater than the majority of Hastings there for governor. Representative Peltz, of Philadelphia, and Kunkel, of Dauphin, are the candidates for chairman of judiciary general. Mr. Lytle, of Huntingdon, is expected to resume his place at the head of railroads. There will be a new chairman of municipal corporations, the former one, Mr. Lafferty, not being re-elected.

CAPITOL JOKES.

From the Washington Post.

Before the revival is over Napoleon will be sure to be outrageously lied about.

The chances are all against Mrs. Dominis receiving a top-of-column notice in the message.

New York will observe that Brooklyn is making quite an effort to send back that engagement ring.

We are quite certain that we detect a "To be continued in our next" gleam in the retirig eye of David Bennett Hill.

Possibly China will wake up some of hese mornings and proceed o realize that the fight has passed the bluffing stage.

The tariff pop-gunners will not have to look far for a testing ground. Senator Quay's speech is ready and eager for the fray.

The defaulting bookkeeper of the Shoe and Leather bank didn't drink, smoke, or chew. He was simply a thief without trimmings.

If he Illinois Demacrats possessed the least spark of pity they would refund Hon. Franklin G. MacVeagh's price of admission.

The logic of he recent election results is of a peculiar nature. It will furnish the defeated Democratic congressman with any kind of brick he may desire to throw and places no limit on him as to direction.

Every time Gov. Flower is disposed to feel badly over the Demacratic defeat he changes the combination on his thoughts so that they revert to he good judgment he displayed in refusing to be a candidate for re-election.

Mrs. Maybrick's Case.

From the Altoona Tribune.

While we admire the firmness of the British authorities, take no stock whatever in the hysterical exclamations concerning Mrs. Maybrick's martyrdom, and do not believe that her extensive and influential relationship should have the slightest weight, yet it is probable that the woman has suffered enough. There is a doubt as to her guilt; her husband was a disreputable dog; his death was probably a benefit to humanity at large. Mrs. Maybrick, in any event, is not likely to do any more harm, even if given her liberty. The British government can well afford to be clement and gracious in this special case. While her friends may exaggerate, when they say she is a confirmed invalid, she is very likely to shrink from publicity if set free. Let her go, then.

Romance and Fact.

From the Wilkes-Barre Record.

Within a radius of less than three miles in and around Wilkes-Barre we have, according to the census of 1890, a population of 67,339. Adding the natural increase in the last four years, we would have today a population of nearly 81,000 people. Investors who want to locate in a thriving city naturally consult the census reports first. They will there find that Wilkes-Barre is credited with a population of only 37,718!

DOT FRAUDULENT PENSION.

For The Tribune.

Say! comrade, mine, vat did you do,
In Sixty-one and Sixty-two,
Dot Hoke Schmidt should get after you
To stop dot little "Pension?"

Did you steal chickens off de pole
To satisfy your hungry soul
Dot Hoke Schmidt drops from the roll
And stops dot little "Pension?"

Mit dot fat chickens in your paws
You little cared for Pension laws
And all Hoke Schmidts in southern cause
Couldn't make you drop dot chicken.

You took dot chicken for private use
And had Hoke been there with his abuse
He'd begin to tink dot H—l vas cut loose
Before he done got dot chicken.

But pensions, not chickens, ve vant to discuss,
About vitch Hoke makes such a terrible fuss,
And calls de old soldiers a fraudulent cuss,
For getting dot little "Pension."

Hoke, he says, you vent dere to fight,
And not to be roaming around at night
Vitch now deprives you of dhe right
To get dot little "Pension."

Hoke Schmidt vill search your record well
And all your frauds begin to tell,
And the treasury mit dose greenbacks swell,
When he stops dot little "Pension."

Well, Hoke? Vat's de disability, pray,
To get a pension at dis late day?
Hoke Schmidt's reply, "With your head shot away,
You gits dot little Pension."

Or mit von leg off and two eyes oud,
And a good big juicy case of gout,
Hoke then concedes you are just about
Fit to get dot little "Pension."

Must we old soldiers stand by, lame,
And let old Hokey play his game,
And from the roll drop off your name,
And stop dot little "Pension?"
Vell, I guess—nit.

—Old Soldier.